

**679.8 Mediators.**

An impartial mediator shall be assigned to each case scheduled for a mediation session. A person is not eligible to serve as a mediator in an approved center until the person has completed at least twenty-five hours of training in conflict resolution techniques approved by the executive director. The council may by rule establish classifications of disputes and provide that a person is not eligible to serve as a mediator in a particular class of dispute unless the person possesses additional credentials or completes additional specialized training, or both.

A center may provide for the compensation of mediators or utilize the services of volunteer mediators, or both.

The mediator shall assist the parties to reach a mutually acceptable resolution of their dispute through discussion and negotiation. The mediator shall officially terminate the dispute resolution process if the parties are unable to agree. The termination shall be without prejudice to either party in any other proceeding. The mediator and the center have no authority to make or impose any adjudication, sanction or penalty upon the parties.

85 Acts, ch 134, §9